



Hamilton

**Light Rail Transit Sub-Committee
Minutes**

3:30 p.m.

**Monday, November 30, 2015
Council Chambers, City Hall
71 Main Street West**

Present: Mayor F. Eisenberger
Councillor J. Farr (Chair)
Councillors A. Johnson (Vice Chair), M. Green, S. Merulla,
T. Whitehead and L. Ferguson

**THE FOLLOWING ITEM WAS REPORTED TO THE GENERAL ISSUES
COMMITTEE:**

1. Light Rail Transit Sub-Committee Terms of Reference (Item 8.1)

(Eisenberger/Merulla)

That the Terms of Reference for the Light Rail Transit Sub-Committee, be approved.

CARRIED

FOR THE INFORMATION OF COMMITTEE:

(a) CHANGES TO THE AGENDA (Item 1)

The Committee Clerk advised of the following changes to the agenda.

- (i) Added as Item 4.1 – a Delegation Request from Victor Mejia respecting the LRT Route (for a future meeting)
- (ii) Added as Item 8.2 (e) – a Verbal Update from the City Manager respecting the recent LRT Executive Meeting

(A. Johnson/Eisenberger)

That the agenda of the November 30, 2015 meeting of the Light Rail Transit Sub-Committee be approved, as amended.

CARRIED

(c) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 2)

There were no declarations of interest.

(d) APPROVAL OF MINUTES (Item 3)

(i) September 23, 2015 (Item 3.1)

(Merulla/Ferguson)

That the minutes of the September 23, 2015 meeting of the Light Rail Transit Sub-Committee be approved, as presented.

CARRIED

(e) DELEGATION REQUESTS (Item 4)

(ii) Victor Mejia respecting the LRT Route (Added Item 4.1)

(Whitehead/A. Johnson)

That the Delegation Request from Victor Mejia respecting the LRT Route be approved for a future meeting.

CARRIED

(f) DELEGATIONS (Item 6)

(i) Mark Rejhon respecting the LRT Implementation (Item 6.1)

Mr. Mark Rejhon addressed the Committee respecting the implementation of LRT with the aid of a PowerPoint presentation. A copy of the presentation has been retained for the official record. Mr. Rejhon was accompanied by Mr. Alain Bureau who assisted in making the presentation.

The presentation from Mr. Rejhon and Mr. Bureau included, but was not limited to, the following:

- Introduction to the Hamilton//LRT Advocacy Organization
 - Benefits of Light Rail Transit
 - Idea Exchange and Communication
 - Importance of Maintaining Completion Deadline
 - Engaging and Informing Residents

- Vision: A City United in its Desire for LRT and Support for an Operational LRT in less than 10 years
- Mission: To Engage, Inform and Inspire Residents and Stakeholders to Support LRT in Hamilton

(Whitehead/Ferguson)

That the delegation from Mark Rejhon and Alain Bureau respecting the LRT Implementation, be received.

CARRIED

(g) DISCUSSION ITEMS (Item 8)

(i) Light Rail Transit Sub-Committee Terms of Reference (Item 8.1)

The Committee used this time to discuss the Terms of Reference of the LRT Sub-Committee.

Chair Farr relinquished the Chair to Vice Chair A. Johnson so that he could speak to this matter.

Councillor Farr expressed his concern that advisors to the Sub-Committee were not given a larger role and that they are not considered voting members. Councillor Farr supports the Terms of Reference overall but not the aspect respecting the role of advisors to the Sub-Committee.

Councillor Farr then reassumed the Chair.

For disposition of this matter refer to Item 1.

(ii) Verbal Updates respecting the LRT Project (Item 8.2)

(i) LRT Team and Organization (Item 8.2 (a))

Mr. Jason Thorne, General Manager, Planning and Economic Development, provided the Committee with an update respecting the LRT Team and Organization.

Mr. Thorne thanked Dave Dixon, Director of Transit and Christine Lee-Morrison, Manager of Light Trail Transit for their leadership in setting up the interim office. Mr. Thorne reported that Mr. Paul Johnson was recently named Director, LRT Coordination. Additional job postings for the LRT office will be going out soon.

There will be approximately 11 full-time City of Hamilton employees in the LRT Office and they will share workspace with Metrolinx at the Hunter Street GO station. Money for initial staffing costs is

coming from the \$2 million advance the City received from Metrolinx.

(ii) Communications Plan (Item 8.2 (b))

Mr. Mike Kirkopoulos, Director, Communications and Intergovernmental Affairs, provided the Committee with an update respecting the LRT Communications Plan.

Mr. Kirkopoulos distributed a handout entitled "Metrolinx – City of Hamilton Communications Protocol". A copy of the handout has been retained for the official record.

Mr. Kirkopoulos indicated that a similar communications protocol has been used by Metrolinx for other projects in the province so this enables the City to learn about the best practices used in other municipalities. The City continues to negotiate a strong role for Hamilton in the Communications Protocol. The Protocol is a general framework or guide on how the two organizations will work together on communications matters.

(iii) Update on the Memorandum of Agreement (Item 8.2 (c))

Mr. Chris Murray, City Manager, provided the Committee with an update respecting the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA). Mr. Murray also included an update on the recent Executive Meeting held between Metrolinx and the City as part of his remarks.

Mr. Murray reported that the City has been working with Metrolinx on a variety of issues so that the MOA can be finalized. The MOA is still in draft form; however it is expected to be finalized soon and it will be presented to the Sub-Committee at their next meeting.

Mr. Murray explained that the MOA is a document which outlines the relationship between the City and Metrolinx at a "high level". It is not a legal, binding document but one where relationships between the two parties are set out in general terms.

Mr. Murray reported that an Executive Meeting between the City and Metrolinx recently took place. Mr. Murray and Jason Thorne, General Manager of Planning and Economic Development, met with Metrolinx President and CEO, Bruce McCuaig and other Metrolinx officials.

The City Manager reported that the issue of the City of Brampton LRT Project, which is no longer proceeding, was discussed at the Executive Meeting. Metrolinx indicated that the funding allocated for Brampton is going back to Metrolinx and it will not be re-allocated to a particular project or a particular community.

Mr. Paul Johnson, Director, LRT Coordination, provided the Committee with an outline of the milestones (target dates) to be reached. The general timeframe was outlined as follows:

- Environmental Assessment (EA) approval is hoped to be received in the spring of 2017;
- Completion of the EA allows the procurement phase to be initiated;
- Following procurement the awarding of the contract is expected in 2018; and,
- Construction is anticipated to begin in 2019

The City Manager stated that a chart outlining the project planning schedule will be provided at the next Sub-Committee meeting.

(iv) Project Schedule (Item 8.2 (d))

This Item was addressed as part of Item 8.2 (c) so no further discussion was required.

(v) LRT Executive Meeting (Added Item 8.2 (e))

This Item was addressed as part of Item 8.2 (c) so no further discussion was required.

(Ferguson/A. Johnson)

That the verbal updates respecting the LRT Project, be received.

CARRIED

(h) ADJOURNMENT (Item 11)

(Ferguson/Whitehead)

That there being no further business, the Light Rail Transit Sub-Committee be adjourned at 5:08 p.m.

CARRIED

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor J. Farr, Chair
Light Rail Transit Sub-Committee

Lauri Leduc
Legislative Coordinator
Office of the City Clerk